

Asheville Multiple Resource Area
Buncombe County

Survey and Planning Branch, Archeology and
Historic Preservation Section, N. C. Division
of Archives and History, Raleigh, NC 27611

#12

NAME: ^{BN24} E. D. Latta Nurses' Residence (Interchange Center)

LOCATION: 159 Woodfin Street

OWNER: The Buccaneer, Inc.
303 Interchange Building
Asheville, NC 28801

DESCRIPTION: The Latta Nurses' Home is a three-story English bond brick structure with multiple-hipped standing-seam tin roofs. The plan is an ell shape, with the short side of the ell facing Woodfin Street and containing the main entrance. The interior of the ell contains a recent glass and brick stair and elevator hall and a covered walkway, both with metal mansard roofs.

The Woodfin Street (north) elevation is eleven bays wide, the central five bays belonging to a slightly projecting pavillion with pediment. The basement is stuccoed, with a rounded stone water table. Above the water table the first floor is rusticated brick-work with Roman-arched windows. At this level is the main entrance, a shallow Tuscan portico with mutullated pediment, four Tuscan antae, and a recessed, panelled doorway with sidelights and a transom.

(cont.)

SIGNIFICANCE: The former E. D. Latta Nurses' Home of Mission Hospital is the most consistent and finest piece of non-domestic Neo-Georgian architecture in Asheville. Designed by two of the city's most popular architects, William and Anthony Lord (both Fellows of the AIA), it incorporates a relatively-sophisticated understanding of English Georgian architectural elements with a typically Neo-Georgian freedom of arrangement and plan.

The building was a gift of Edward D. Latta, a Charlotte developer (Latta Arcade-NR), who had moved to Asheville in his later years and had been a patient at the hospital. When Latta died in 1925 his will provided for a bequest to the hospital of about a million dollars, the interest from which was to be applied "First, in the erection of a suitable and commodious Nurses' Home. . ."¹ (cont.)

DATE: 1929

PHOTO NO.: N.78-9--1099

UTM: 17-359880/3940420

ACREAGE: less than 1 acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: See Plat map, Ward 2, Lots 25 and 26

DATE RECORDED:

BY:

Asheville Multiple Resource Area, Buncombe County
Continuation Sheet

E. D. Latta Nurses' Residence

Description:

Above the first floor the windows have flush jack arches and six over six sash, except for the window directly over the entrance, which is a Tuscan order Palladian window.

The building has a plain sheetmetal, box cornice except for the central pavillion, which has a mutullated cornice and a pair of large consoles below the frieze at the ends of the raking cornice. There is also a roundel in the tympanum of the pediment. There are large, interior chimneys on either side of the central pavillion.

Significance:

As built, the home included bedrooms for the nurses and nursing students, suites for nursing supervisors, sitting and living rooms, a recreation room, kitchen, chemistry lab, demonstration room and several lecture rooms. The interior furnishings were carefully-selected reproductions of early American pieces.

The home is no longer owned by the hospital, which has moved to another location. Its rooms have been converted to rental office space, and a non-intrusive brick and glass elevator and stair tower added to the rear angle of the building.

¹"Will Filed for Probate", Asheville Citizen, no page.

Bibliography:

"E. D. Latta Nurses' Home is Fine Building with Sumptuous Furnishings." Asheville Sunday Citizen. January 5, 1930. Section B, page 2.

"Will Filed for Probate; Estate Worth Millions." Asheville Citizen. June 24, 1925, no page.

SHEET - 16

STREET

ARLINGTON STREET

STREET

FURMAN AVENUE

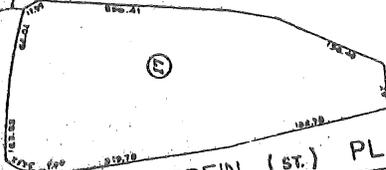
WARD - 2, SHEET - 2

(OVERPASS)

EXPRESSWAY R/W

SHEET - 17

R/W



WOODFIN (ST.) PLACE

WARD - 2, SHEET - 2

CHARLOTTE STREET

R/W

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INTERCHANGE BUILDING

←	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	→
←	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	→
←	OFFICE	→